

Kennedy Projects End Seclusion for Jackie

DES MOINES REGISTER 2/2/64



WIREPHOTO (AP)

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy walks down the steps of her newly purchased home in the Georgetown section of Washington, D. C., Saturday, accompanied by Joseph Kennedy, a son of Attorney General Robert Kennedy. A Secret Service man is behind. She moved into the house, built in 1784, earlier in the day.

By Charles Bailey

(Of The Register's Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy is beginning to come out of seclusion—but only to lend a hand in projects honoring the memory of her slain husband.

President Kennedy's widow made her first public appearance here Monday night when she dined at the Jockey Club restaurant, a favorite watering-spot of the local "jet set."

the display of memorabilia, photos, gifts, and so on.

The aim of Mrs. Kennedy and the others planning the library is to make "as vital as possible an exhibit—not only of the man but of his times," according to one aide.

Thus there will be special booths where visitors, by pushing different buttons, may see films of a Kennedy press conference, a major foreign policy speech or a campaign appearance.

The selection may also include related material not directly involving Mr. Kennedy, such as a missile-launching site or other activity.

Radio Tapes

Some unusual material has already been turned up for this tape-and-film collection. There is, for example, a radio tape of Mr. Kennedy reciting the entire Declaration of Independence as part of a July Fourth speech he delivered while still a senator.

Leroy Collins, president of the National Association of Broadcasters and an old Kennedy political ally, is helping to get radio stations to silt their own files for similar material.

The archives at the library will be unique in two ways. First, they will include relevant records and papers of a great number of the officials who worked with Mr. Kennedy, rather than being limited to his own White House papers.

The aim here will be to provide a full record of the many major decisions and actions which could not be fully documented by White House papers alone.

In the civil rights field, for example, the records of Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall are critical, and they have already been filmed by a crew from the National Archives.

Talks by Aides

In addition to such films, there will be another unprecedented section in the "archives" of the Kennedy Library—a collection of tape-recorded (and in some cases perhaps videotaped) interviews with men and women associated with Mr. Kennedy in one way or another.

There was also a pal of little John-John, and thus it is that now, each day, Powers drive from the White House to Georgetown at noontime to eat lunch with the boy—and to talk, over hamburgers, as a father might.

There may be several hundred—perhaps several thousand—of these taped interviews, which will be collected beginning this month by friends and former aides of the late President.

Subjects will range from cabinet officers to Boston ward politicians, and will include many people who had no official or political connection with Mr. Kennedy but had some private association with him. In the selection of those to be interviewed, Jacqueline Kennedy is playing a substantial part.

But she is even more concerned with what might be called the "living" part of the library—to be called the "Kennedy Institute."

There is no decision yet on the form this will take—whether fellowship grants, scholarships, the financing of seminars in government, or perhaps even a school of its own within the Harvard Community.

Scholars vs. Politicians

The aim, however, is generally agreed on by Mrs. Kennedy and others in the family: "To try to bring the scholar down from his ivory tower, and to bring the politician in off the street—so they can meet and work on mutual problems."

The intended prime beneficiaries of the institute: young people, especially those who want to enter public service.

A blue-ribbon committee has been set up to raise the \$10 million—\$6 million for buildings and \$4 million to endow the institute—needed to set up the library. Already, almost \$1 million has been sent in by the public, and the Kennedy family has pledged \$1 million more.



David Powers

...ation were her son...
...75-00149R000400340021-1
...ed. The news stories put the...
...on Brown—this time it...
...talk to Mrs. Kennedy who is...
...the nationwide television...
...for the Wednesday Joseph...
...P. Kennedy Sr. Foundation in...
...ational awards dinner in...
...New York.
...Powers is the husband...
...Cloris Leachman, stage...

vision actress from Des Moines.)

Boston Library

Though the memorial dinner was the cause of her first public appearance, Mrs. Kennedy has been working harder on something else—the Kennedy Memorial Library which will be built in Boston, Mass.

Her very first step out of deep mourning, in fact, had to do with the library. She invited the committee which is planning it to meet at her home in Georgetown recently.

She has made it clear she wants to have an active hand in planning the project, which was closer to the heart of the late President than any other non-official activity.

She has visited the site he selected last fall—a plot on the bank of the Charles River across from Harvard University's undergraduate dormitories—and has joined in planning not only the physical arrangement but also the programs of the memorial library.

Broad Scope

Actually, "library" is a misnomer—or at least an incomplete description. The Kennedy Library will be at least as much oriented to the public as to the scholar, and because of its location—in a major metropolitan area already rich in historic tourist-during sites—it will probably attract huge numbers of visitors.

Thus it must, like the earlier presidential "libraries" built by former presidents Hoover, Truman and Eisenhower, have a substantial museum section for

nedy family has pledged \$1 million more.

So much mail has come to so many different people and places—Mrs. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Senator Edward Kennedy, the late president's mother, Harvard, the White House have received contributions for the library—that a special mailing address has been established—Kennedy Library, Box 2500, Boston, Mass. 02107.

Aside from her work on the library and such isolated affairs as the memorial dinner to be held in New York this week, Mrs. Kennedy is keeping strictly to herself.

In New Home

She moved Saturday into the new house she bought in Georgetown after her husband's assassination. Friends believe that redecorating and other womanly moving-in chores may keep her busy until the weather warms up enough for her to take the children to "Wexford," the Virginia country place where she can find enjoyment with the horses and hunting she loves so much.

It was a short move Saturday for the former First Lady to her home at 3017 N. St. N. W. from the residence in the same block leased to her since Dec. 6 by Undersecretary of State and Mrs. W. Averell Harriman.

Mrs. Kennedy's latest town house is one of the oldest in the area, dating from 1794.

A few hours after moving in, Mrs. Kennedy emerged in riding habit and boots and left in a sports car driven by her brother-in-law, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

Her children had left earlier with a Secret Service man.

There are reminders of the old White House days for her and the children. One particularly poignant one is the daily visit by David Powers, chief usher at the White House.

Powers, who was President Kennedy's first political ally—he took him in to meet voters when he first ran for Congress in 1946—was the late President's constant companion in the White House.

Powers was the man who could make Mr. Kennedy laugh—who could always relax him, always deflate him, always cheer him up.